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SUBJECT: TFLE01: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION - HEZBOLLAH AND AMERICA

Block Quotes

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Sunday, July 23, 2006

-- "Hezbollah, a Lost Card in a Storm" Editor-in-chief of  
pro-government Arabic daily Al-Seyassah Ahmed Al-Jarallah's  
commentary on the front page (7/23):

"Hezbollah is impotent in the sense that it is unable to withstand  
the pressure by Syria and Iran to stand against the plans of the  
United States to democratize the Middle East. At the same time it  
is unable to openly involve Iran and Syria in Lebanon's dilemma. In  
the end Hezbollah will be left alone and rendered incapable of  
continuing the war against America's democratization process."

-- "By Land" is Ali Al-Roz's piece in moderate Arabic daily Al-Rai  
Al-Aam (7/23):

"Between the 'Greater Middle East' that the American Secretary of  
State Condoleezza Rice spoke of and the funeral processions in  
Lebanon, Israel is massing troops in order to shift from its air and  
sea criminal campaign to a land invasion. The estimates of how far  
into Lebanon it should go differ, ranging from the Litani River or  
to take up more strategic positions. It seems that Rice's new  
'Middle East' raised the ceiling on Israel's objectives that once  
were randomly scattered."

-- "Change Your Name Sir" is the title under which Salah Al-Fadly  
penned in moderate Arabic daily Al-Rai Al-Aam (7/23):

"If the reason some oppose Hezbollah is that what it did was  
adventurous and hasty, then this is naive and a departure from the  
crucial issues. They consider the losses of a tourist season more  
important than the dignity of the nation. Some oppose what  
Hezbollah did simply because of its name and because its leader  
dresses in traditional Islamic attire and is named Hassan. If this  
was not the case, they would have considered him a legend. If he  
wanted to win them over, which he does not, all he has to do is  
change his name and dress."

-- "Will Hezbollah Win?" is how Ahmed Mohamed Al-Fahd commented in  
moderate Arabic daily Al-Watan (7/23):

"If Hezbollah wins by hiding underground and not advancing towards  
Palestine and if it achieves what it wants through indirect  
negotiations with the Zionists to free the Lebanese prisoners, then  
its victory is phony to the fullest meaning of the word. The  
Lebanese prisoners have many ways of getting out of prison other

than the abduction of soldiers. The Lebanese prisoners would rather stay in prison than go back to a Lebanon that has been destroyed and that has gone back to where it was 20 years ago due to Nasrallah's ways of negotiation."

-- "New Middle East: One That Is Stubborn" is the title of Columnist and member of the Kuwait Journalists Society Dr. Ayed Al-Manaa's piece in moderate Arabic daily Al-Watan (7/23):

"It is Condoleezza Rice's right to dream of the birth of a 'New Middle East,' one that is born out of the womb of human suffering inflicted upon millions of Lebanese. But dreams are not real. And if the American Secretary of State is trying to ease the birth pains and spread the news of a unique newborn, the reality speaks of something entirely different. What is happening in Lebanon is not a difficult birth; it is a full fledged war with the objective of destroying Hezbollah."

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